

ABSTRACT

An image pickup device capable of dividing an image into two or three portions and capturing the image portions as divided. The image pickup device comprises a splitting part (135), which includes both a bi-prism for splitting an incident light into two and a tri-prism for splitting an incident light into three, and an exchange mechanism for exchanging the bi-prism and tri-prism. The splitting part (135) can be located other than a position where the focus position of a main lens (131), on which a light from a subject (140) is incident, coincides with the focus positions of relay lenses (132,133,134) that guide the split lights. This arrangement allows images of normal, twice or three times wide, which are equivalent to images as acquired by a single, two or three cameras, respectively, to be captured, recorded, reproduced, relayed, transmitted, displayed, or screened.